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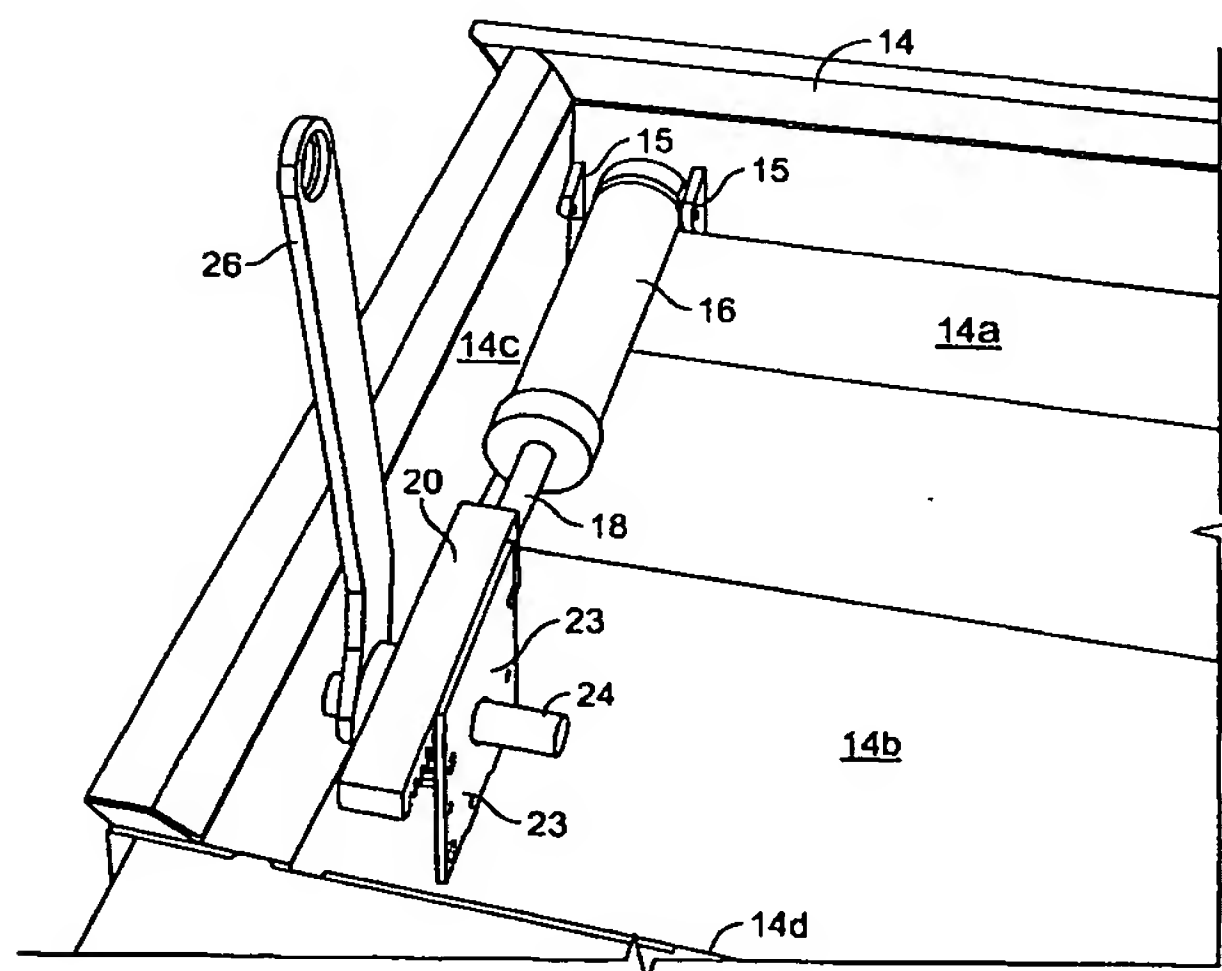
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(54) Title: DRIVE APPARATUS FOR A MOBILITY ACCESS DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A linear drive system (100) for reversibly operating a wheelchair ramp (20) or other mobility access device is provided. The drive system (100) for the mobility access device includes an actuator (16) and a drive apparatus coupled thereto for moving the access device or portion thereof. The actuator (16), which may be a hydraulic cylinder, electric actuator or the like, has a linearly moving arm that cooperates with the drive apparatus including a gear rack (20) and a spur gear (22). The gear rack (20) is coupled to the moving arm and mates with the spur gear (22) that rotates on a shaft (24) in response to the linear movement of the moving arm. A drive link (26) is coupled with the spur gear (22) for pivoting about the shaft (24) to deploy and stow the access device.

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